

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Lee for his time and attention in the interview held on October 9, 2002. The comparative data discussed at the interview is incorporated into the Rule 132 Declaration and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15 are pending in this application. No claims have been canceled, added or amended. Applicants request the entry of the amendments filed on July 19, 2002, but not entered. In addition, Applicants submit herewith the Declaration of Mr. Kobayashi to show unexpected superior results of the present invention over the resin compositions of the cited prior art.

Unexpected Superior Results

In response to the Examiner's obviousness rejection, Applicants submit that the present invention has unexpected superior properties over the cited art. The ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer of the present invention is synthesized in the presence of a single-site catalyst and the resultant fire retardant resin composition and the molded part have unexpectedly superior properties over a resin composition made from an ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer synthesized in the presence of a multi-site catalyst as disclosed in the cited art.

The olefin polymer of the cited art is synthesized from a multi-site catalyst. As a result, the composition of the cited art does not have the same excellent extrudability, flexibility and whitening properties as compared to the present invention.

The Examiner objected to the prior comparative data stating that the (c) component of the comparative samples was not analogous to the (c) component of the present invention. Applicants submit in the new declaration comparative data showing the (c) component of one of the comparative samples as ethylene/1-octene copolymer synthesized with a multi-site catalyst. From this data it is clear that the present invention with the (c) component being synthesized from a single site catalyst has superior results over the same copolymer synthesized from a multi-site catalyst.

In the interview, the Examiner expressed concern about the qualitative results represented by "O" and "X". In response, Applicants submit that the symbols are defined in the specification at pages 59 to 61. "O" for whitening means that after winding 6 times there was no whitening. "X" however means that whitening was observed after 6 windings. For extrudability, "O" means output was good at the normal motor range. However, "X" means that extrusion was difficult or impossible at a normal motor range. Regarding flexibility, "X" means poor flexibility as not practical for use as an insulated wire. On the other hand, "O" means that the wire was

able to bend a difference of 3 cm or more. From the symbolic data in the Table I in the Declaration of Mr. Kobayashi, it is clear that the present invention has superior properties over the comparative examples. Moreover, Applicants submit that the quantitative results represented by the symbols may be extrapolated from the qualitative results reported in the Table I.

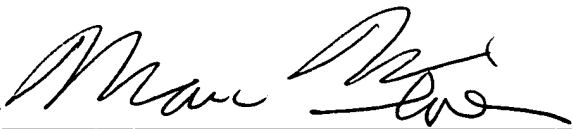
As such, Applicants submit that the obviousness rejection should be withdrawn in view of Applicants showing of unexpected superior results over the cited art in the Declaration of Mr. Kobayashi submitted herewith.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kecia Reynolds (Reg. No. 47,021) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Marc S. Weiner, #32,181

MSW/RJR/jao
0234-0370P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

(Rev. 02/20/02)